10/594478

Serial No. Not Yet Assigned Atty. Doc. No. 2003P19408WOUS

IAP01 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 SEP 2006

## **ABSTRACT**

In order to control an internal combustion engine, a fuel mass that is to be supplied to the respective cylinder is determined according to a load variable. An additional fuel mass to be measured once is determined, when the measuring signal of an oxygen probe arranged downstream from a three-way catalytic converter is characteristic of at least one pre-determined residual oxygen part, according to the course of the measuring signal. A once reduced fuel mass is determined, when the measuring signal is characteristic of at least one pre-determined residual fuel part, according to the course of the measuring signal. A corrected fuel mass to be measured is determined according to the fuel mass to be supplied and optionally less the once reduced fuel mass or the fuel mass to be measured once. An actuating signal for controlling the injection valve is generated according to the corrected fuel mass to be supplied.